

Creel Survey

May 20, 2014

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

Salmon/Steelhead

Elochoman River from mouth to West Fork and Grays River from mouth to South Fork and West Fork from mouth to hatchery intake/footbridge – Under permanent rules, open to fishing for hatchery Chinook and hatchery steelhead beginning the first Saturday in June (June 7th this year).

Cowlitz River – Anglers are catching a mixture of adult and jack spring Chinook and winter and summer run steelhead. Most of the catch was sampled between the hatcheries.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 534 spring Chinook adults, 219 jacks, 93 winter-run steelhead and 19 summer-run steelhead during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released two steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton, 180 spring Chinook adults and 110 jacks into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam, and 192 spring Chinook adults and 88 jacks into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 6,450 cubic feet per second on Monday, May 19. Water visibility is nine feet.

Blue Creek from mouth to posted sign above rearing pond outlet – Effect June 1, the trout daily limit is 5 fish. Up to 2 fish over 20 inches may be retained. Release wild cutthroats. Night closure and anti-snagging rules will be in effect. Open to all anglers.

Green River from the mouth to 400' below the water intake at the upper end of the hatchery and South Fork Toutle River from the mouth to the 4700 Road Bridge – Scheduled to open the last Saturday in May. Selective gear rules apply during this early fishery which ends June 6. **Be alert for a possible emergency regulation to open these fisheries earlier.**

Kalama River – Boat anglers are catching some spring Chinook which have to be released.

Through May 18, a total of 78 hatchery Kalama origin spring Chinook have returned to Kalama Falls Hatchery. The escapement goal is about 400 adults.

Kalama River from Summers Creek upstream to 6420 Road (about 1 mile above gate at end of county road bridge) – Effective the first Saturday in June, up to 2 hatchery steelhead may be retained. Fly fishing only.

Lewis River – No report on angling success. Through May 18, just over 500 spring Chinook had returned to the traps. The hatchery escapement goal is about 1,300 adults.

North Fork Lewis River from Johnson Creek (located downstream from Lewis River Salmon Hatchery) upstream to overhead powerlines below Merwin Dam – Through May 31 CLOSED TO ALL FISHING. On June 1st this section will reopen to hatchery steelhead but remain closed for Chinook.

East Fork Lewis River from the mouth to 400 feet below Horseshoe Falls (except closures around various falls) and the Washougal River from the mouth to Salmon Falls Bridge – Under permanent rules these areas will be open to fishing with bait for hatchery steelhead beginning the first Saturday in June.

Wind River – Anglers are catching fish throughout the river. As of today, Carson National Fish Hatchery reports 547 fish have returned. The hatchery escapement goal is 1,500 fish.

Drano Lake – Anglers continue to catch some spring Chinook, both adults and jacks.

As of today, a total of 1,624 spring Chinook have returned to Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery. The escapement goal of 1,000 fish has been met.

Klickitat River – Bank anglers in the lower river are catching about an equal mix of adult and jack spring Chinook plus a few summer run steelhead.

As of May 12, a total of 5 adult spring Chinook had returned to Klickitat Salmon Hatchery. The escapement goal is about 500 fish.

Under permanent rules, the Klickitat River from the Fisher Hill Bridge downstream will open 7 days per week beginning June 1. The salmon daily limit will be 6 fish of which no more than 2 may be adults. Two hatchery steelhead may also be retained. Release wild Chinook.

The section from 400 feet upstream from # 5 fishway upstream to boundary markers below the Klickitat Salmon Hatchery will open to fishing for hatchery Chinook jacks and hatchery steelhead beginning June 1 under permanent rules. Again, release wild Chinook.

Yakima River – WDFW staff interviewed 38 anglers fishing for salmon in the lower Yakima River this past week with no salmon caught or harvested. The majority of anglers interviewed were fishing for smallmouth bass and channel catfish. Staff interviewed 119 anglers fishing for bass and channel catfish (241.6 pole hours) with 101 smallmouth and 17 channel catfish.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Bank anglers are catching more jack spring Chinook than adults while boat anglers are catching just the opposite. Quite a few summer run steelhead also appearing in the catch mostly from Longview downstream.

Effort was fairly heavy this past weekend with over 500 boats and 600 bank anglers counted during the Sat. May 17 flight.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met yesterday morning to review the upriver spring Chinook stock status. TAC maintained the current in-season forecast of 224,000 adult upriver spring Chinook to the Columbia River.

TAC will meet again Tuesday May 27.

Sturgeon

Lower Columbia from the Marker 82 line downstream – Effort and catch remains light during the current catch-and-release fishery.

The Dales Pool – Slow for legal size fish. Through April, an estimated 71 (23.7%) of the 300 fish annual guideline had been taken.

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. An estimated 238 (47.6%) of the 500 fish annual guideline had been taken through April.

Walleye and Bass

The Dales Pool – Boat anglers averaged 2.5 walleye and 4.5 bass per rod when including fish released.

John Day Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged nearly 1.5 walleye and 13 bass per rod.

Trout

Lake Scanewa (Cowlitz Falls Reservoir) – Beginning June 1, open to fishing for hatchery rainbows. 20,000 catchable size rainbows expected to be planted from June through August.

Some streams in Region 5 that open to fishing the Saturday before Memorial Day (and scheduled plants of catchable size rainbows) are Canyon (5,500), Bird (1,000), Outlet (1,000), and Spring (3,000) creeks and the Little White Salmon River (3,000).

Recent plants of trout (no report on angling success):

BATTLE GROUND LK (CLAR)

May 12, 2014	Cutthroat	3,000	2.74	Skamania Hatchery
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GOOSE LK (SKAM)

May 13, 2014	Cutthroat	6,066	2.26	Skamania Hatchery
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May 13, 2014	Brown Trout	1,540	1.75	Vancouver Hatchery
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KIDNEY LK (SKAM)

May 12, 2014	Rainbow	2,079	2.28	Goldendale Hatchery
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HORSESHOE LK (COWL)

May 09, 2014	Rainbow	12	0.3	Goldendale Hatchery
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May 09, 2014	Rainbow	2,500	2.33	Goldendale Hatchery
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May 09, 2014	Brown Trout	2,000	2.6	Mossyrock Hatchery
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KLINELINE PD (CLAR)

May 12, 2014	Cutthroat	1,275	2.74	Skamania Hatchery
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May 09, 2014	Rainbow	80	0.1	Goldendale Hatchery
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May 09, 2014	Rainbow	250	0.3	Goldendale Hatchery
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May 09, 2014	Rainbow	2,000	1.6	Vancouver Hatchery
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Apr 23, 2014	Brown Trout	2,000	1.8	Vancouver Hatchery
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• KLINELINE PONDS

May 12, 2014	Rainbow	256	0.67	Trout Lodge Commercial	Average 1.5 lbs. each
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KNUPPENBURG LK (LEWI)

May 14, 2014	Brown Trout	1,000	2.6	Mossyrock Hatchery
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LK SACAJAWEA (COWL)

May 12, 2014	Brown Trout	2,002	2.6	Mossyrock Hatchery
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May 12, 2014	Rainbow	1,000	2.5	Mossyrock Hatchery
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LTL KLICKITAT30.0067

May 13, 2014	Rainbow	966	2.29	Goldendale Hatchery
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SPEARFISH LK (KLIC)

May 13, 2014	Rainbow	1,500	2.29	Goldendale Hatchery
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FORT BORST PRK LK (LEWI)

May 05, 2014	Rainbow	2,008	2.51	Goldendale Hatchery
<u>KRESS LK (COWL)</u>				
May 08, 2014	Brown Trout	2,080	2.6	Mossyrock Hatchery
<u>MINERAL LK (LEWI)</u>				
May 08, 2014	Brown Trout	2,990	2.6	Mossyrock Hatchery

Shad

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam – Bank anglers just below Bonneville Dam averaged 2.6 shad kept per rod. Boat anglers in the Longview area were also catching some fish.

Bonneville Dam counts have averaged about 5,000 shad per day for the past week.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville ¹	163	27	51	---	---					241	21.9%	Apr. 30	1,100
The Dalles	12		35	24						71	23.7%	Apr. 30	300
John Day	10	14	133	81						238	47.6%	Apr. 30	500
¹ Due to the short season in Bonneville Pool, we will be providing weekly harvest estimates. We will continue to provide harvest estimates for the other pools on a monthly basis. Bonneville Pool was closed to retention January 20-31 and February 18-23.													
The winter fishery in Bonneville Pool closed to retention effective March 10. The fishery is scheduled to re-open June 13-14 and June 20-21 to catch the remainder of the guideline.													
Harvest estimates are calculated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary.													
Current month sampled sturgeon kept:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep				
Bonneville	58	14	13	---	---					85		May 18	
The Dalles	4		12	3						19		May 18	
John Day	3	5	42	18	6					74		May 18	
Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.													

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary ¹

May 12 - 18, 2014

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers.
Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Sturgeon														
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept
Bonneville Pool						14							71	85
The Dalles Pool	7	3				3	3	8	3				16	19
John Day Pool	5					19	15	28	12		4		55	74
Total	12	3				36	18	36	15		4		142	178
Salmonids	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2014 Cum Leg Kept	Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool														
Chinook														
Coho														
Steelhead														
The Dalles Pool						77							51	128
Chinook						76							46	122
Coho														
Steelhead						1							5	6
John Day Pool						41							42	83
Chinook						41							38	79
Coho														
Steelhead													4	4
Walleye	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool						7	7	17	5	37			345	352
John Day Pool							14	27	10	28			163	163
Bass	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2014 Cum Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool														
The Dalles Pool	2	3					5	13	25	34			53	53
John Day Pool							6	5	62	3			4	4

¹ Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	74%	none	165%	188%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.40	none	2.21	4.13
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	1.95	2.27
John Day	Effort (as a % of 6-week average)	95%	none	167%	71%
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.48	none	1.41	13.00
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.12	none	1.04	0.60

Preliminary Washington lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary
5/19/2014

4:30 PM

Salmonid

Salmonid	Chinook										Chinook								
Month/Week	Bank	Kept	Released			Steelhead				#	Boat	Kept	Released		Steelhead				
5/15-18, 2014	<u>Sec.</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Other</u>		<u>Boats</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Other</u>
Bonneville	1	245	18	31	12	4	0	0	0		10	26	6	4	5	2	0	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2	30	5	0	0	2	0	0	0		51	105	7	4	10	0	0	0	0
	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		30	66	2	1	2	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	51	1	1	2	0	0	0	0		32	61	7	1	5	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	55	2	0	0	1	3	0	0		23	47	5	3	2	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	43	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		57	120	7	0	4	0	1	0	0
Cowlitz	7																		
Longview	8	140	1	1	1	0	11	0	0		133	282	26	9	12	1	22	1	0
Cathlamet	9	35	1	0	1	0	6	0	0		15	36	1	1	3	0	7	0	0
private boats/bank charter	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		21	35	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
	10																		
Total		603	28	33	17	7	20	0	0		372	778	65	23	43	3	31	1	0

Sturgeon

	<u>Sec.</u>	<u>Bank</u>	<u>Sublegals</u>	<u>Legals</u>	<u>Oversize</u>	<u>Legals</u>	#	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Sublegals</u>	<u>Legals</u>	<u>Oversize</u>	<u>Legals</u>
		<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Kept</u>		<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Kept</u>
Bonneville	1					CLOSED						CLOSED
Camas/Washougal	2					CLOSED	2	3	2	0	0	CLOSED
	3					CLOSED						CLOSED
Vancouver	4					CLOSED						CLOSED
Woodland	5					CLOSED						CLOSED
Kalama	6					CLOSED						CLOSED
Cowlitz	7					CLOSED						CLOSED
Longview	8					CLOSED						CLOSED
Cathlamet	9					CLOSED						CLOSED
	10					CLOSED						CLOSED
Deep River + Knappton boats	10					CLOSED						CLOSED
Cathlamet	10					CLOSED						CLOSED
Total		0	0	0	0	CLOSED	2	3	2	0	0	CLOSED

Shad

	<u>Sec.</u>	<u>Bank</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	#	<u>Boat</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>
		<u>Anglers</u>				<u>Anglers</u>		
Bonneville	1	60	158	0				
Camas/Washougal	2							
	3							
Vancouver	4							
Woodland	5							
Kalama	6				1	2	0	0
Cowlitz	7							
Longview	8				1	3	5	0
Cathlamet	9							
Chinook/Elochoman	10							
Total		60	158	0	2	5	5	0

Washington lower Columbia tributaries salmonid sport sampling summaries - May 12-18.

Area	Bank	Chinook		Chinook		Steelhead		Other		Boat	Chinook		Chinook		Steelhead		Other
	<u># Rods</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>			<u># Rods</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	
Cowlitz River	111	12	5	2	0	3	0	0		30	4	12	0	0	3	2	0
Kalama River	2	CLOSED	CLOSED	0	0	0	0	0		6	CLOSED	CLOSED	3	0	0	0	0
Wind River																	
mouth										143	13	7	2	0	0	0	0
gorge	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
upper river	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Drano Lake										191	22	4	0	0	0	0	0
Klickitat River	31	5	6	0	3	2	0	0		13	0	0	1	0	0	0	0